



# **NEWS RELEASE**

## **IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD**

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### **Water Board to Address Aquifer Studies When It Meets In Coeur d' Alene This Week**

The initiation of a study of the Rathdrum Prairie-Spokane Valley aquifer will be one of several agenda items discussed by the Idaho Water Resource Board (IWRB) when it holds its regularly scheduled meeting on Friday, July 18, at 8:30 a.m. at the Shilo Inn, 702 W. Appleway in Coeur d' Alene. The Rathdrum Prairie-Spokane Valley aquifer study is one of two studies starting this month as part of a \$20 million multi-year study of all aquifers in the state.

The Board will review proposed revisions of well construction rules which were last revised in 1988. The revisions are proposed to protect Idaho ground water resources from contamination and waste by correcting conflicts and ambiguities in the current rules and to reflect contemporary well construction practices.

Among other items, a discussion on the funding of proposed options to increase the water budget in the Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer (ESPA) will be addressed. The proposed options are the result of the Comprehensive Aquifer Management Planning (CAMP) process.

Updates also will be received on the status of the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) and the W-Canal Recharge Project near Wendell.

A Thursday morning work session will include review of the Board's financial loan program, including a discussion on leveraging the Board's existing loan portfolio. The Cocolalla Lake minimum water levels also will be discussed, and the Board will convene in executive session closed to the public to discuss potential litigation.

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The Board's Water Storage Sub-Committee also will meet on Wednesday night, July 16, at 7:00 p.m. to discuss proposed water storage projects around the state. The meeting will be held at the IDWR Northern Regional Office at 7600 N. Mineral Drive in Coeur d' Alene.

A meeting of the Board's State Water Plan Sub-Committee also is planned following the Board's regular meeting on Friday July 18 at the Shiloh Inn at 702 W. Appleway in Coeur d' Alene. The meeting will begin with a working lunch at 12:30 p.m.

The complete agendas of the work session and board meetings are posted on the IDWR website at: [www.idwr.idaho.gov](http://www.idwr.idaho.gov)

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